UNITED NATIONS

Convention to Combat Desertification

Distr.
GENERAL

ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.7
7 November 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Fourth session
Bonn, 11-22 December 2000
Item 6 (g) of the provisional agenda[1]

**PROGRAMME AND BUDGET**

**(g) REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE TRUST FUND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES IN THE BIENNIUM 2000-2001 AS OF 30 JUNE 2000**

**Note by the Executive Secretary**

Addendum

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[1] ICCD/COP(4)/1.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. This document contains information on the activities supported under the Supplementary Fund. It should be read together with document ICCD/COP(4)/3 on the review of implementation of the Convention. The document provides a brief description of the activities facilitated by the secretariat and an assessment of the results achieved. This information is accompanied by the statement of expenditures, as of 30 June 2000. Activities that will be undertaken during the last six months of the year 2000 are accompanied by an estimate of expenditures. The document is organized in accordance with the main programmes as follows:

A. Substantive support to the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies and legal advice (COPSUBLA)

B. Facilitation of implementation and coordination by region

C. External relations and public information

2. Each regional chapter includes activities at the national, subregional, regional, as well as inter-regional levels. It should be noted that activities supported by the secretariat were often undertaken jointly with other bilateral or multilateral partners, in order to achieve optimum results.

## II. PERFORMANCE OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY FUND

3. Tables 1 and 2 provide information on the status of supplementary funds and an analysis of expenditures as of 30 June by programmes. This is followed by detailed performance reports by programmes.

**Table 1. Status of Supplementary Fund as of 30 June 2000**
*(United States dollars)*

| **INCOME** | **Amount** |
|---|---|
| Balance brought forward 1999 | 2 544 457 |
| Contributions received | 1 050 577 |
| Prior year savings on obligations and interest income | 67 131 |
| **TOTAL INCOME AS OF 30 JUNE 2000** | **3 662 165** |
| Total actual expenditures | 1 912 753 |
| **BALANCE** | **1 749 412** |

4. In addition to the actual expenditure of US$ 1,912,753 as of 30 June 2000, an estimated amount of US$ 1,932,610 will be utilised in the second part of the year. This brings the total estimated expenditure to US$ 3,845,363. The required resources will be raised during the second part of the year. The total income as of 30 November will be reported to COP 4 in document ICCD/COP(4)/2/Add.8.

**Table 2. Use of the supplementary funds by programme**
*(United States dollars)*

| Programme | Supplementary Fund |
|---|---|
| Policy-making organs | 0 |
| Executive direction and management | 0 |
| Substantive support to the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies and legal advice | 141 595 |
| Facilitation of implementation and coordination | 1 467 964 |
| External relations and public information | 83 143 |
| Administration and finance | 0 |
| Global Mechanism | 0 |
| **Subtotal** | **1 692 702** |
| Programme support costs* | 220 051 |
| **Total** | **1 912 753** |
| Working capital reserve | 158 759 |
| **Grand total** | **2 071 512** |

*In accordance with the United Nations guidelines ST/SGB/188, paragraph 47, a 13 per cent programme support factor has been applied to expenditures on all the trust funds except where exemptions have been authorized by the Controller. The amount has been calculated on the basis of the actual expenditures incurred and debited as a charge to this account and credited to the United Nations.

## A. Substantive support to the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies and legal advice

### 1. Traditional knowledge

**US$**

The First Ad Hoc Panel on Traditional Knowledge was held in Matera, Italy, in July 1999. Funds for the Panel meeting were committed in 2000. On the basis of the outcome of the meeting, the COP 3 reappointed the Panel. The second Panel meeting on traditional knowledge was organised in Matera, Italy, in May 2000.

The main results of the meeting were as follows: consideration of the development of appropriate criteria, benchmarks and indicators; assessment of how the networks and mechanisms established under the Convention are incorporating traditional and local knowledge in their work programmes; assessment of the socio-economic and ecological benefits of traditional knowledge.

The results of the meeting will be presented at the fourth session of the COP in document ICCD/COP(4)/CST/2.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Grants to IPOGEA for the organisation of two panel meetings | 76 928 |
| • Travel of participants | 14 261 |
| • Consultancy for preparing documents | 2 042 |
| • Travel of staff | 2 843 |
| **Traditional knowledge total** | **96 074** |

**2. Early Warning Systems** **US$**

The main activity of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Panel appointed by the Conference of the Parties was to review and elaborate on the following technical topics emerging from national reports of Parties and regional forums on implementation of the Convention:

(a) Data collection, accessibility, and integration;

(b) Evaluation and prediction of drought and desertification, and measures for preparedness, in cooperation with the follow-up to the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;

(c) Dissemination of information to end-users on the applications of early warning systems and desertification monitoring and assessment, and strengthening of appropriate response mechanisms, particularly in the National Action Programmes to combat desertification.

The Ad hoc Panel on Early Warning Systems met in Bonn, Germany, in May-June 2000.

The results of the meeting will be presented at the fourth session of the COP in document ICCD/COP(4)/CST/4.

**3. Survey and evaluation of existing networks**

Phase I of the Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies was concluded in 1999. The output of the survey is a database containing more than 1,000 entries, which gives basic information on the institutions which responded to the survey. Most of the funds for the survey were already disbursed in 1999.

- Grant to UNEP for completion of the survey 20 400

**Survey and evaluation of existing networks 20 400**

**4. Desertification information system for planning needs in the Mediterranean region**

A consultative process to establish a desertification information system for planning needs in the Mediterranean region (DISMED), was organised in Marrakesh, Morocco, by the CCD Secretariat in 1998 at the request of the Government of Italy.

The start-up workshop will be held in Copenhagen in September 2000. The workshop will review and assess the objectives, institutional framework and future activities of the DISMED process. The European Environmental Agency and an Italian institution (the Foundation for Applied Meteorology, FMA) are ensuring the required preparations for the workshop. The CCD Secretariat will continue to play a facilitating and coordinating role in the activities of DISMED.

- Estimated expenditures including grants and travel of staff 250 000

**Desertification information system for planning needs in the Mediterranean region 250 000**

**5. Round Table of Parliamentarians** **US$**

A two-day meeting of Members of Parliaments will be organised during the fourth session of the COP in Bonn, Germany in December 2000. Parliamentarians from 35 countries are expected to attend the round table meeting to discuss how to foster the implementation of the Convention.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Estimated expenditures including travel of some participants and logistics | 80 000 |
| **Round Table of Parliamentarians** | **80 000** |

**6. Other meetings**

Some meetings related to the UNCCD were organised in Rome, Italy in February. These meetings and workshops dealt with social participation to combat desertification, synergies between UNCCD, UNCBD and UNFCCC (see also chapter F).

| | |
|---|---|
| • Travel of staff | 2 942 |
| **Other meetings** | **2 942** |

**7. Assistance for temporary support staff**

Temporary support staff assisted in the preparation of the COP and CST bureau meetings and the fourth session of the COP.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Assistance for temporary support staff | 22 179 |
| • Estimated expenditure to 31/12/2000 | 22 000 |
| **Assistance for temporary support staff total** | **44 179** |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Substantive support to the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies and legal advice** | |
| **Actual expenditures as of 30 June 2000** | **141 595** |
| **Estimated expenditures to 31 December 2000** | **352 000** |
| **TOTAL** | **493 595** |

## B. Facilitation of implementation and coordination in the Africa region

**1. Facilitation of Implementation at the National Level**

**1.1. Awareness raising**

National coordinating bodies and the focal points were assisted in the organisation of national awareness raising seminars in Burundi, Cameroon, Madagascar and Republic of Congo. Support to seminars in Cameroon and Madagascar was obligated already in 1998.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Grants to Burundi and Republic of Congo | 10 000 |
| • Consultancy to support the national seminars | 5 016 |

The aim of this activity was to ensure that key stakeholders at the country level are aware of the objectives and provisions of the Convention, particularly those groups that are involved in policy making and natural resource users at the grassroots level. **US$**

The main accomplishment of this facilitation activity was higher awareness among various actors including women groups, youth, parliamentarians and key Government officials.

### 1.2. National Action Programmes

National meetings to validate the National Action Programmes to combat desertification or to launch its implementation were organised in Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Chad and Niger.

- Travel of staff 16 466

Since 1999, two more African affected country Parties have finalised and/or validated their NAPs, making the total number of NAPs 15 as of 30 June 2000. Furthermore, five African countries are planning to finalise the elaboration of their NAPs before the end of the year 2000.

- Estimated expenditures: grants, travel of staff/regional coordinator 20 000

The objective of these consultative forums was:

- to integrate the NAPs into the overall national development planning process as well as to mainstream the NAPs with other natural resources and poverty eradication initiatives in the countries;

- to have the NAP endorsed by respective governments as the tool for implementing the Convention at the country level.

The major achievements have been that governments in these countries have approved the NAP frameworks as the mechanism for Convention implementation involving the various stakeholders.

### 1.3. Convocation of consultations for partnership agreements

In order to establish partnership agreements for support to the implementation of the NAPs, a meeting of selected African focal points and representatives of UNDP, the World Bank, the Global Mechanism and the UNCCD Secretariat was organised in Cotonou, Benin in February 2000. The main objective of this consultative meeting was:

- to chart out the way for concluding partnership agreements between the affected country Parties and their development partners in support of the NAP implementation at the national and local levels;

- to identify ways and means for resource mobilization for addressing the already identified NAP priority programme areas.

- Grant to Benin for local costs 3 540

- Travel of participants 18 900

| | US$ |
|---|---|
| • Travel of staff | 13 361 |

The main outcome of the meeting was a multi-stakeholder discussion on:

- how to integrate the NAPs into sustainable development strategies; and

- how to launch consultative processes in countries to address the key issue of resource mobilization to support implementation of the NAPs.

As a follow-up to the Cotonou meeting several African countries, namely Benin, Cape Verde, Gambia, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda, are planning to organise national forums and consultative meetings with donor countries, aiming to foster partnership building and resource mobilisation.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Estimated expenditures, including consultancy, grants and travel of staff | 10 000 |

At the national level emphasis has been placed on the facilitation of the convocation of consultative process aimed at the conclusion of partnership agreements. The majority of countries which have validated their programmes are in the process of launching these activities.

The expected output of these activities is that concrete measures will be taken at the country level, to facilitate the conclusion of partnership agreements to buttress the NAP implementation through the identified priority programme areas.

| | |
|---|---|
| **National level total** | **97 283** |

## 2. Facilitation of Implementation at the Subregional level

### Central Africa

The Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) organised a workshop in N'Djamena, Chad, in June 2000 for ten Central African member countries.

The meeting was an opportunity for the member states of CEMAC to explore and identify concrete areas of common concern to the sub-region, and to agree on the best ways to approach problems that are transboundary in nature.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Grant to CEMAC | 15 880 |

### Eastern Africa

In Eastern Africa IGAD prepared a draft subregional action programme. The draft will be discussed in a meeting of IGAD policy organs and various stakeholders, to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in October 2000. The expected outcome will be:

- the adoption of the Subregional Action Programme and improved cooperation for its implementation;

- an agreement on the key priority programme areas for SRAP implementation; **US$**

- an elaboration of strategies for resource mobilization to support the SRAP;

- an outline of clearly shared responsibilities among the major stakeholders interested in supporting the SRAP implementation

- Grant to IFAD 30 000

**Northern Africa**

The SRAP for Northern Africa was adopted in 1999. The priority activities established under the SRAP aim at:

- strengthening the exchange and collection of information;

- strengthening the capacity of key institutions supporting the SRAP;

- strengthening the research and development components for sustainable use of dryland resources.

The facilitation of the implementation of the SRAP will be supported among the countries in Northern Africa, while collaboration with Northern Mediterranean countries will be pursued.

- Estimated expenditures, including travel of staff and documentation 5 000

**Southern Africa**

A subregional workshop on resource mobilisation and partnership building for the implementation of the Convention in Eastern and Southern African countries, members of IFAD and SADC, will be organised by the Global Mechanism, in coordination with the UNCCD Secretariat, in Mombasa, Kenya, in October 2000. Similar workshops are planned also for other subregions.

The main objective of these workshops is to examine the different approaches and opportunities for mobilizing resources for the NAPs and SRAPs.

The expected results of these resource mobilization consultations are:

- well outlined strategies for raising the requisite financial and technical resources for the implementation of NAPs and SRAPs;

- examination of modalities for main-streaming the NAPs and SRAPs into the framework of interventions and programmes of financial and technical cooperation agencies.

- Estimated expenditures, including travel of staff and documentation 10 000

**Western Africa** **US$**

In order to launch the implementation of the SRAP for Western Africa, preparations for work programmes for two thematic groups under the SRAP were started. Furthermore, a workshop on synergies between UNCCD, UNCBD and UNFCCC will be organised by CILSS and ECOWAS in Conakry, Guinea, in October 2000. The main objective will be to explore the synergies between the three Conventions, particularly at the local level. The expected results are:

- well defined modalities for coordination of local level activities among the three Conventions;

- clearly identified issues that demonstrate the convergence of interest and added value in the well coordinated implementation of the three Conventions.

• Estimated expenditures including travel of staff 5 000

Six western African countries are participating in a programme aiming at strengthening the involvement of women and youth in the implementation of the Convention. Various activities are to be undertaken by local NGOs. The programme is coordinated and administered by Sahel DEFIS, a network of field-based NGOs.

The expected output will be a constituency of important stakeholders who are better equipped to address the implementation of the Convention in their local areas.

• Grant to Sahel DEFIS 50 000

Support was provided for the formulation of several transboundary pilot projects, with the aim of creating favourable local conditions and enhancing the joint management of shared natural resources. Local communities from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger have participated. The projects are as follows:

- Pilot project for community management of shared cross border pastures in the Azaouak zone between Mali and Niger;

- Pilot project for community management of shared salted sites for livestock on the border areas between Mali and Burkina Faso;

- Pilot project for sustainable community management of shared grazing resources between Burkina Faso and Niger;

- Pilot project on community-based activities for the rehabilitation and protection of degraded land in the locality of Tamchekett, Mauritania;

- Pilot project on the promotion of community-based activities and capacity strengthening strategies for food security for local communities living in Tin-Zaouaten between Algeria and Mali;

- Pilot Project on the management of shared water resources in border areas of Burkina Faso and Mali (Le Beli).

• Grants to NGOs in charge of implementation in Burkina Faso and Mauritania 63 599

| | US$ |
|---|---|
| • Consultancy | 21 685 |
| • Estimated consultancy and travel | 15 000 |
| **Subregional level total** | **219 164** |

## 3. Facilitation of Implementation at the Regional Level

### 3.1. Regional Action Programme

The identification of six Thematic Programme Networks (TPN) was one outcome of seven thematic workshops held in 1998 and 1999 in Nairobi, Kenya; Bamako, Mali; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire; Tunis, Tunisia; Sadore, Niger; and Harare, Zimbabwe.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Printing of the reports of the Abidjan, Sadore and Harare workshops | 7 178 |

Three consultative meetings on TPNs for Africa, namely on the integrated management of international river, lake and hydro-geological basins, on the promotion of agroforestry and soil conservation, and on the rational use of rangelands and development of fodder crops were organised in Bonn, Germany. The objectives of these consultative meetings was to discuss and outline the modalities for the preparation of the launching of the TPNs, with an appropriate and well-defined time frame for priority activities.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Contractual services | 1 650 |
| • Travel of nine participants | 20 938 |

The main results of the consultative meetings include the definition of the operational framework for the first three TPNs and proposed formulation of their goals, standards and activities. A work plan for 2000-2001 was also defined.

The meeting for the formal launching of the TPN on the integrated management of international river, lake and hydrogeological basins is planned to be held in November 2000. The meeting will be attended by representatives of specialized institutions in Africa, with the major objective of developing and adopting a detailed work programme.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Estimated expenditures, including travel of participants and staff as well as the preparation of documentation | 130 000 |

### 3.2. Regional Coordination Unit

The results of the activities of the Regional Coordination Unit for Africa, hosted by the African Development Bank in Côte d'Ivoire, have included support to the launching activities of TPN's, the facilitation of inter-agency coordination and the elaboration of joint work plans with various institutions in Africa, as well as participation at the national, subregional and regional meetings.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Staff costs | 46 553 |
| • Travel of regional coordinator | 8 315 |

| | US$ |
|---|---|
| • Grant to ADB for providing secretarial services for the Regional Coordination Unit | 5 787 |
| • Estimated staff costs to 31 December 2000 | 78 712 |

### 3.3. Regional Meeting of African Focal Points

The Fourth Regional Meeting of African National Focal Points will be held in Algiers, Algeria, in October 2000. The main expected result of the meeting will be a review of the status of national, subregional and regional action programmes and an overall assessment of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Convention in the region, especially with regard to the decisions taken by COP 3. Regional preparation and coordination of the main issues for the COP 4 will also be discussed.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Estimated expenditures, including travel of participants and preparation of documentation | 259 448 |

Immediately following the Focal Points meeting, the Global Mechanism will organise a workshop on resource mobilization for the Northern African subregion. The expected results of this consultative meeting will be clearly defined strategies for resources mobilization for supporting the implementation of the Convention in Northern Africa subregion.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Regional level total** | **558 581** |

### 4. Facilitation of Implementation at the Inter-Regional Level

During the second inter-regional Africa - Latin America and the Caribbean Forum, held in Timbuktu and Bamako, Mali, in March 2000, several countries from both regions presented detailed proposals and identified participants and partners for inter-regional cooperation.

The main result of the meeting was a programme of technical and scientific exchanges and the adoption of a Declaration of Principles and Commitments. A significant outcome of the forum was the enhanced cooperation between African and Latin American partners in the fight against desertification and drought through, the exchange of experiences, knowhow and practices, among others. The role of traditional knowledge in the sustainable management of natural resources was also discussed.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Travel of participants | 68 318 |
| **Inter-Regional level total** | **68 318** |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Facilitation of implementation in the Africa region** | |
| **Actual expenditures as of 30 June 2000** | **407 186** |
| **Estimated expenditures to 31 December 2000** | **536 160** |
| **TOTAL** | **943 346** |

## C. Facilitation of implementation and coordination in the Asia region

When considering the subprogramme on the facilitation of implementation and coordination in the Asia region, it should be noted that some activities to support countries in Eastern and Central Europe are also being undertaken by this subprogramme.

### 1. Facilitation of Implementation at the National Level

US$

### 1.1. National reporting

At its fourth session, The Conference of the Parties will examine reports of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa. To facilitate national reporting, a Help Guide was developed.

National reporting was supported in 28 Asian and Central and Eastern European countries.

- Grants to 28 countries, including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Republic of Moldova. 117 800
- Travel of staff 6 532

Subregional workshops on national reporting were organised during the spring of 2000 for West Asian countries in Beirut, Lebanon; for Central Asian and Eastern European countries in Almaty, Kazakhstan; and for other Asian countries in New Delhi, India. Germany supported the organisation of the meeting in Almaty. The meeting in New Delhi was held back to back with a meeting on Thematic Programme Network 2. In the workshops, the national focal points, together with relevant subregional organisations, reviewed the key issues of the reporting process.

- Grant to Lebanon 4 000
- Travel of participants 6 837
- Consultancy 2 020
- Travel of staff 8 555

Two consultants assisted in preparing the compilation of the document for COP 4 and in reviewing the methodological implications of the reporting process.

- Consultancy 13 318

The main result of the facilitation of national reporting was securing the timely submission of reports from affected Asian, Central and Eastern European countries. The subregional meetings provided a platform for the countries to express their views on the reporting exercise and particularly on the usefulness of the Help Guide. Synthesis on information per subregion was gathered for COP 4 documentation.

27 of the assisted countries, in addition to ten other affected country Parties from Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, submitted their reports in due time for the COP, bringing the total to 37 national reports.

US$

The elaboration of the national reports contributed to greater national and public awareness of desertification, and enhanced cooperation at the national level. At the international level, the consideration of the reports at the Conference of the Parties is expected to provide development partners with information on the problems and possible solutions with regard to combating desertification in the countries of the regions, and thus further raise awareness.

**1.2. Capacity-building**

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Uzbekistan were assisted in strengthening their national focal points. Support will be provided to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

The objective of institutional support to the national focal points is to assist them in finalizing the preparation and adoption of National Actions Programmes.

- Grants to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Uzbekistan 168 000

- Estimated expenditures, including grants to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan 140 000

The assistance provided at the national level catalyzed coordination and project implementation. The CCD/SRAP of Central Asia also indirectly benefited from increased activities at the national level. The following outputs are worth mentioning:

- In the Caucasus, support from the secretariat was critical in launching the implementation process.

- With the assistance provided to Republic of Moldova, a workshop and seminars were organized, resulting in the finalization and subsequent endorsement of the NAP by the Government.

- Armenia initiated a national awareness raising campaign and had the Convention translated into Armenian language.

- An expert group for NAP preparation was established in Azerbaijan, and four awareness raising seminars were organized.

- A contract was signed with the TV centre of Armenia to use TV programmes for awareness raising on matters related to combating desertification. Translation of the Convention text and Fact Sheets into Armenian has been completed.

- In Azerbaijan a group of experts has been established for the NAP preparation and the working plan has been prepared. Awareness raising seminars were organized in four regions. A sub-contract was given to a national NGO to develop collaboration between the public sector and the state.

- In Kazakhstan, several meetings for various stakeholders will be organized in order to identify national capacities and needs with regard to combating desertification.

US$

- In Kyrgyzstan, NGOs in cooperation with the national focal point, will organize national awareness seminars in six regions of the Republic.

- In Tajikistan, a National Forum for the approval of the NAP will be conducted, as well as a study on socio-economic factors leading to desertification.

**1.3 Convening of consultations for partnership agreements**

The coordination meeting on partnership agreements and resource mobilisation for the implementation of the Convention in China is scheduled to take place in November in Beijing. The meeting aims to initiate a dialogue between China, donor governments and international organisations.

- Estimated expenditures, including travel of staff 6 000

In addition to the assistance to China to streamline and coordinate at the national level a mechanism for partnership to combat desertification, the secretariat's support is also expected to enhance inter-agency cooperation and coordination between the involved Chinese line Ministries.

**National level total 473 062**

**2. Facilitation of Implementation at the Subregional Level**

Further to the request of five Central Asian states (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan), a ministerial meeting on the preparation of a Sub-regional Action Programme to Combat Desertification (SRAP) in the Aral Sea Basin will be organized in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan in July. The objectives of the meeting are: to review the situation in the region, which is facing the consequences of an unprecedented environmental disaster; to discuss the main issues for subregional cooperation; and to reach a consensus at ministerial level on the timely preparation of the SRAP. It will be followed by an expert meeting to agree on the main elements of the SRAP, the possible areas of cooperation in the framework of the Programme and to review proposals on the Programme of Work on the preparation of the SRAP for the years 2000/2001.

- Travel of staff 4 131

The Subregional Action Programme for West Asia was finalised and officially adopted at a meeting in the United Arab Emirates in February 2000. The SRAP document consists of a framework paper that defines the SRAP's organizational structure and broadly outlines activity areas.

- Travel of staff 3 706

**Subregional level total 7 837**

**3. Facilitation of Implementation at the Regional Level** **US$**

**3.1. Regional Action Programme**

The Regional Action Programme for Asia consists of six thematic programme networks (TPNs), that aim to address the most acute desertification-related problems faced by the region.

The TPN 1 meeting in Tokyo in June 2000 resulted in the identification of specific technical steps necessary for producing a regional desertification map. It also discussed benchmarks and indicators for desertification monitoring and assessment and allowed for brainstorming on the future launching of the TPN 1 Web site by the Chinese host institution.

- Travel of participants 57 309
- Travel of staff 13 889

The production of the regional desertification map will be completed in 2½ years. A group of experts from the Region submitted 24 technical reports describing the monitoring and assessment systems in their respective countries. The proceedings of the Tokyo meeting will be published by the UNCCD secretariat.

TPN 2 on Agroforestry for Asia was launched at a meeting organized in Delhi, India. The network aims to support national efforts to develop sustainable agriculture in arid and semi-arid areas and to facilitate the exchange of information and technical know-how at the regional level.

- Travel of participants 59 278
- Grant to India for local costs 8 000
- Consultancy 5 252
- Travel of staff 16 727

The Delhi meeting reviewed the proposal for the TPN 2 framework and operational activities. Furthermore, the participants interacted with the host institute's scientists and staff members.

Further preparation for the launching of TPN 3 was carried out. A consultant will assist in the preparations for the meeting, including the preparation of background documentation.

- Estimated expenditures, including logistics and travel of participants 150 000
- Consultancy 7 500

**3.2. Regional Coordination Unit**

The Regional Coordination Unit for Asia is hosted by ESCAP in Bangkok, Thailand. The Unit participates in facilitating the implementation of the CCD, through the provision of information on activities in the region and technical assistance for implementing subregional and national activities.

- Grant to ESCAP for the salary of the regional coordinator and operational costs 92 552

| | US$ |
|---|---|
| • Travel of regional coordinator | 6 959 |
| • Estimated travel of regional coordinator for the period July to December 2000 | 5 000 |

The Unit greatly facilitated cooperation with other Asian regional institutions, thereby contributing to a better coherence of policy initiatives in the environmental field.

### 3.3. Regional Meeting of Asian Focal Points

The Third Regional Meeting of Asian Focal Points will be organised in November in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting will focus on national reporting and preparations for COP 4, as well as on future steps to be taken with respect to the Regional Action Programme (RAP).

| | |
|---|---|
| • Estimated expenditures, covering meeting facility arrangements including documentation and interpretation, and travel of participants and staff | 146 000 |

The Global Mechanism will organise consultations on partnerships for an effective implementation of the Convention back to back with the focal points meeting.

The Asia Facilitation Unit has also provided assistance and policy coordination in the assessment of progress for the NAP process in other regions to assist the deliberation of the Cotonou meeting (see section B above).

| | |
|---|---|
| • Travel of staff | 2 596 |
| **Regional Level total** | **571 062** |

### 4. Other meetings

The Workshop on Land Degradation in countries of Central and Eastern Europe was organised in May in Brussels, Belgium. Background documentation was prepared on participatory land management practises, on the status of land degradation in the region, and on EU activities in the field of land degradation.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Travel of participants | 62 939 |
| • Consultancy fees | 33 565 |
| • Travel of staf. | 3 102 |

The workshop highlighted the extent of the threat of land degradation in the region and explored how joint responses could be facilitated under the Convention's framework.

A workshop on Global Environment Conventions was held in The Hague, Netherlands. The workshop reviewed options to maximise synergies between global environmental conventions.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Travel of staff | 591 |
| **Inter-Regional Level total** | **100 197** |

| | US$ |
|---|---|
| **Facilitation of implementation in the Asia region** | |
| **Actual expenditures as of 30 June 2000** | **705 158** |
| **Estimated expenditures to 31 December 2000** | **447 000** |
| **TOTAL** | **1 152 158** |

## D. Facilitation of implementation and coordination in the Latin America and Caribbean region

### 1. Facilitation of Implementation at the National level

### 1.1. National reporting

At its fourth session, the Conference of the Parties will examine reports of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa. Technical assistance and financial support was provided for national reporting in 27 countries of the Latin America and the Caribbean region.

- Grants to 27 Latin American and Caribbean countries 134 540

Five regional consultants assisted countries in the preparation of their national reports. They were responsible for giving technical advice on the structure and content of the reports. A two-day meeting for the consultants and national coordinators was organised in Mexico in cooperation with UNEP/ROLAC with the aim to analyse the Help Guide, as well as a detailed review of the experiences of the African Parties in national reporting and NAP preparation.

- Travel of participants 9 271
- Consultancy, including travel in the region 90 802
- Travel of staff 12 722

A consultant assisted in the compilation and synthesis of national reports for COP 4.

- Consultancy 11 543

All the thirty Latin American and Caribbean country Parties submitted their reports in due time for the COP.

The elaboration of national reports contributed to greater national and public awareness of problems related to desertification, and enhanced cooperation at the national level. At the international level, the presentation of the reports at the fourth Conference of the Parties is expected to provide development partners with information on the problems and possible solutions with regard to desertification in the countries of the regions.

### 1.2. Awareness raising

A national awareness raising seminar was held in Jamaica, while those for Colombia and Venezuela will be organized in 2001. Support to Jamaica was obligated already in 1999.

- Grants to Colombia and Venezuela 16 000

| | US$ |
|---|---|
| The awareness raising seminar in Jamaica brought together various actors and stakeholders, including women groups, youth, Parliamentarians and key government officials, with the purpose of discussing problems related to desertification and to generate ideas as to possible solutions. The main outcomes were: a wider national and public awareness of the land degradation problem; and the elaboration of a platform for further consideration and action at the national level. | |
| **National Level total** | **274 878** |

## 2. Facilitation of Implementation at the Regional Level

### 2.1. Regional Action Programme

The Regional Information Network on Drought and desertification for Latin America and the Caribbean (DESELAC) is part of the Regional Action Programme. It aims to provide different stakeholders of the region with means for efficient and easy exchange of information. The network is managed by the UNCCD.

DESELAC has been operating for over two years, involving Focal Points as well as academic and NGO communities in most countries of the region. Further development of the network will enhance the results already gained and allow for necessary expansion and improvement.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Estimated expenditures | 50 000 |

### 2.2. Regional Coordination Unit

The Regional Coordination Unit for Latin America and the Caribbean region is hosted by the UNEP regional office in Mexico. Through the Unit, the Secretariat has been providing information on activities in the region, as well as technical assistance for implementing subregional and national action programmes.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Grant to UNEP for the Regional Coordination Unit | 45 000 |
| • Travel of staff | 401 |

### 2.3. Regional Meeting of Latin American and the Caribbean Focal Points

The Sixth Regional Meeting of the UNCCD country Parties of Latin America and the Caribbean will be organised in October in El Salvador. The meeting will focus on the preliminary review of the national reports as well as on the development and implementation of national, subregional and regional activities. It will also examine other issues on the agenda of COP 4.

| | |
|---|---|
| • Estimated expenditures including documentation and travel of participants | 150 000 |

**2.4. Other meetings** **US$**

A workshop on soil salinisation will take place in Cuba in 2001. The meeting is expected to gather representatives from countries of the region in order to discuss concrete projects to address specific problems in soil salinisation in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean. A consultant has been hired to assist in the preparation of documents and the organisation of the workshop.

- Consultancy 5 050

**Regional Level total** **250 451**

**Facilitation and implementation in the Latin America and Carribean region**
**Actual expenditures as of 30 June 2000** **325 329**
**Estimated expenditures to 31 December 2000** **200 000**

**TOTAL** **525 329**

## E. Facilitation of implementation and coordination in the Northern Mediterranean region

### 1. Facilitation of implementation at the national level

At its fourth session, the Conference of the Parties will examine reports of affected country Parties of regions other than Africa. Developed country Parties have reported to the COP on their support to the implementation of the Convention in regions other than Africa.

A consultant was hired to assist in the compilation and synthesis of national reports of developed country Parties, as well as those of the Northern Mediterranean affected country Parties for COP 4.

- Consultancy 6 112
- Estimated consultancy fees and travel 5 000

The consideration of the reports by the Conference of the Parties is expected to provide developing countries, as well as the development partners with recommendations on a closer cooperation between stakeholders in the context of the implementation of the Convention.

### 2. Facilitation of implementation at the regional level

Ministerial and Focal Points meetings of the Group of Annex IV countries were organized in Murcia, Spain. In the meetings the participants considered the further development of the Regional Action Programme. The national Focal Points were mandated to work as a regional coordination committee in preparations for the RAP. The setting up of the thematic programme networks reflecting the regional priorities was also approved.

These meetings contributed to advance the elaboration of the RAP one step further, as there is now a regional coordination committee created for the Group of Annex IV countries.

- Travel of staff 1 331

| | US$ |
|---|---|
| The secretariat also assisted in the preparation and organization of the 4th ministerial meeting of the Group of Annex IV countries, as well as the technical meeting on social participation to combat desertification, which were held in Rome, Italy, in conjunction with the meeting on synergies referred to below. | |
| **3. Activities at the Inter-Regional Level** | |
| a) An interregional workshop on synergies between the UNCCD, UNCBD, UNFCCC and the Forest Principles in the Mediterranean was organised in Rome, Italy, in February 2000. Participants from Annex IV countries, as well as from Northern African countries, exchanged views on promoting synergies in the formulation and implementation of the NAPs, and on fostering collaboration on this issue between both sides of Mediterranean. | |
| • Travel of participants from Northern African countries | 19 854 |
| • Travel of staff | 1 753 |
| • Estimated travel of staff | 6 000 |
| The main result of the meeting was to initiate discussion on linkage between conventions in different regions around the Mediterranean. | |
| b) Conference on the future of the Mediterranean rural environment was held in May in Turkey. Participants sought to identify the main threats and problems related to sustainable land use and management. | |
| • Travel of staff | 1 241 |
| The main results of the conference was a strengthened dialogue and cooperation between academic and business communities, as well as policy makers, from different parts of the Mediterranean. | |
| **Facilitation of implementation in Northern Mediterranean region** | |
| **Actual expenditures as of 30 June 2000** | **30 291** |
| **Estimated expenditures to 31 December 2000** | **11 000** |
| **TOTAL** | **41 291** |
| **Facilitation of implementation and coordination, GRAND TOTAL** | |
| **Actual expenditures as of 30 June 2000** | **1 467 964** |
| **Estimated expenditures to 31 December 2000** | **1 194 160** |
| **GRAND TOTAL** | **2 662 124** |

## F. External relations and public information

### 1. Coordination with non-governmental organisations

a) A Mediterranean NGO's Conference on the participation of NGOs in National Action Programmes was organised in June 2000 in Murcia, Spain. The Conference was held in parallel with the ministerial meeting of the Annex IV countries.

| | US$ |
|---|---|
| b) A regional NGO meeting entitled "MedForum" presented a proposal for a regional project on participatory water management. The meeting also adopted recommendations addressed to the governments and institutions active in or relevant to the UNCCD. These recommendations focused on the creation of a coordinating committee for the implementation of the Convention and the further enhancement of the participation of NGOs in the UNCCD process. | |
| c) In conformity with the letter and spirit of the Convention, the NGO community aims to effectively channel its input to the formulation and implementation of National Action Programmes and to assist in the implementation of the Convention through various capacity-building and awareness raising activities. | |
| • Estimated expenditure related to grants | 25 000 |
| d) In conformity with established practice, NGO representatives will hold a one-day preparatory workshop before each Conference of the Parties. During the workshop, non-governmental representatives will prepare their participation in the two half-day dialogue sessions to be held within the official work programme of the COP. | |
| • Estimated expenditures | 15 000 |
| **Total support to NGO activities** | **40 000** |

**2. NGO participation in CCD meetings**

| | |
|---|---|
| In conformity with provisions of the Convention and relevant COP decisions, the NGO community is actively encouraged to participate in the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties. | |
| • Estimated expenditures for participation of sixty representatives from the NGO community in the COP 4 | 240 000 |
| **NGO participation in CCD meetings** | **240 000** |

**3. Public Information**

| | |
|---|---|
| Public information activities are expected to cover standard information and media activities, such as the publishing of the UNCCD newsletter, printing of information material, production of memorabilia material and support to the participation of journalists to the fourth session of the COP. | |
| • Estimated contractual services for graphic layout and translation | 450 |
| • Estimated expenditure on printing of newsletters/information kits and on the production of a memorabilia for COP 4 | 15 000 |
| • Estimated expenditure to support the participation of media to COP 4 | 15 000 |
| Public information activities are expected to substantially increase public awareness about the UNCCD process, desertification in the world, and the relationship with other environmental issues, in particular with biodiversity and climate change. | |
| **Total for Public Information activities** | **30 450** |

| **4. Assistance for temporary support staff** | **US$** |
|---|---|
| In order to strengthen cooperation and effectively build synergies with activities of other conventions, United Nations bodies, international, governmental and non-governmental organizations, the UNCCD liaison office in New York Headquarters attended meetings with GEF, United States of America government officials and NGOs based in Washington, DC. | |
| • Assistance for temporary support staff | 55 310 |
| • Estimated expenditure to 31/12/2000 | 56 000 |
| • Travel of staff to meetings | 27 833 |
| • Estimated expenditure | 20 000 |
| **Total for temporary support staff** | **159 143** |
| **External relations and public information** | |
| **Actual expenditures as of 30 June 2000** | **83 143** |
| **Estimated expenditures to 31 December 2000** | **386 450** |
| **TOTAL** | **469 593** |

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